

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 August 2005 (18.08.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/074923 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 31/4178**,
33/00, 33/24, A61P 001/14, 003/04

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/AU2005/000120

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 1 February 2005 (01.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/541,862 3 February 2004 (03.02.2004) US
60/592,052 28 July 2004 (28.07.2004) US

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— with international search report

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates generally to a method for modulating the sensation of satiety perception and to agents useful for same. Such agents are useful in modulating, controlling or otherwise affecting inter alia obesity, anorexia, weight maintenance, metabolic energy levels and/or inflammatory conditions in a subject. More particularly, the present invention identifies molecules which interact with ion channels thereby modulating the perception of satiety. The present invention contemplates, therefore, a method for modulating the perception of gastric distension by the administration of agents which control the activation or inhibition of mechanoreceptors. The present invention further provides compositions comprising these agents and methods of treatment using same. In a particular embodiment, the present invention permits modulation of perception of gastric distension by the administration of agents which control the activation of mechanoreceptors associated with mechanical stretch.



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